STATE OF MONTANA OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 11-2015

EXECUTIVE ORDER PROCLAIMING AN EMERGENCY TO EXIST STATEWIDE IN THE STATE OF MONTANA

WHEREAS, extremely hazardous wild land fire conditions currently exist throughout the entire State of Montana, including near-record temperatures, continual wind and low relative humidity;

WHEREAS, numerous wildland fires have occurred and continue to ignite in the State of Montana;

WHEREAS, many of these fires are threatening numerous residences and outbuildings and have required evacuations of residents and subsequent sheltering of the evacuees;

WHEREAS, firefighting resources remain at critical shortage levels;

WHEREAS, the critical shortages have already necessitated the deployment of the Montana National Guard and international firefighting resources;

WHEREAS, continued deployment of firefighting resources will considerably reduce the number of large wildland fires, which in turn significantly reduces the damage to both public and private property;

WHEREAS, continued aggressive initial attacks on all future wildland fire starts are needed to protect lives and property in the state;

WHERAS, wildland fires have been and are currently burning and have created an imminent threat of a disaster, which timely actions can avert or minimize; and

WHEREAS, under these conditions, pursuant to Sections 10-3-302, 10-3-305, 10-3-311, and 10-3-312, Mont. Code Ann., the Governor may mobilize state resources and the Montana National Guard to protect life, health, and property by declaring a state of emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, STEVE BULLOCK, Governor of the State of Montana, pursuant to the authority vested in me as Governor under the Montana Constitution, Title 10, Chapter 3, Mont. Code Ann., and other applicable laws of the State of Montana, do hereby declare under § 10-3-302, MCA, that an emergency exists in the State of Montana.

This order is effective September 4, 2015.